

making a *de novo* determination of those portions of the Report and Recommendation to which specific objection is made. Additionally, the Court may “accept, reject, or modify, in whole or in part, the findings or recommendations made by the magistrate judge.” 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1). Where the plaintiff fails to file any specific objections, “a district court need not conduct a *de novo* review, but instead must only satisfy itself that there is no clear error on the face of the record in order to accept the recommendation.” *See Diamond v. Colonial Life & Accident Ins. Co.*, 416 F.3d 310, 315 (4th Cir. 2005) (internal quotation omitted).

The Magistrate Judge correctly stated the law that a non-attorney may not represent a lay person in federal district court and that a pleading signed by a non-attorney representing a party is a legal nullity. (Dkt. No. 24 at 5). Consequently, the Court adopts the R & R (Dkt. No. 24) as the order of the Court. This action is dismissed without prejudice and without issuance of a process.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/ Richard Mark Gergel
United States District Judge

April 27, 2023
Charleston, South Carolina